

Abstract:

A power device supplies power to a node using a power-transmitting network connection, such as, for example, a Power over Ethernet (PoE) connection. The node supplies at least a portion of the power received over the power-transmitting network connection to one or more downstream devices using additional power-transmitting network connections. The one or more downstream devices may be connected to the remote device in a hub-and-spoke configuration in one embodiment in accordance with the invention. In other embodiments in accordance with the invention, the one or more downstream devices are connected to the remote device in a linear configuration or in some combination of the linear and hub-and-spoke configurations.